

## GRAND RAPIDS HERALD

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The weather today: For Upper and Lower Michigan, fair weather, easterly winds.

## LABOR REPORT.

Never were the workmen of Grand Rapids more indignant than when they were asked to fill out the blanks prepared by the state commissioner of labor. Nearly every one of them objected to answering such questions as "How much do you earn per week?" "What do you do with your wages?" "How much money have you in the bank?" "What part of your earnings do you spend on others?" "Do you wear corsets?" etc., etc. As a rule the objectors were frightened into answering all questions, but some of the braver ones flatly refused, even when threatened with the law, to give to the public what they considered to be their business, and which could possibly concern anybody else. The results of the questions and answers appear in the report of the commissioner of labor noticed in another column. From it, it appears that the working women of Grand Rapids are paid better than the women of any other city of the state. Surely this is gratifying. Undoubtedly the high wages paid to the lady teachers of the city have much to do with favorable report. The average for the state appears to be 73 cents per day. Not a very large amount for a woman to support a family on, as so many of them have to do. Some of the other statistics of the report are pitiful. "Five women began work at eight years of age and one at fifty-eight." What chance is there for a woman who "began work at eight years of age" ever to learn how to earn any very large salary? An eight year old wage-earner is a disgrace to every rich man and woman in the state. The statement that the highest wages per week of any woman in the state is \$18.75 makes one suspect that the agents of the commissioner of labor met with poor success among certain classes of working women. A large number of them in Grand Rapids get more than \$18.75 per week. As a reflection of what women are earning, and how they doing it, the report makes interesting reading in this "Woman's Age."

## SIDEWALKS.

The city fathers, after much effort, succeeded in devising an admirable sidewalk ordinance. It was not made in a day, but was rather the thoughtful secretion of many years of labor and study, and yet, as in the case of the model young man in the new testament, there still remains one thing needful. The walks of artificial stone are all right if the surface is roughened, but when left with a smooth and glossy finish, a wet cake of soap or a fresh banana peel can not be compared with them for slipperiness. Within the past few weeks thousands of proud-stepping citizens have been laid low. Gracefully draping coat tails have been dabbled in the mire, spines have been telescoped, tongues half bitten off and false teeth that were capable of resisting the most stentorian sneeze have clattered ignominiously in the slush. The man who keeps his feet for the whole length of Monroe street must step as if he was walking on the thin crust of perfidion. Some of the artificial walks in this city seem to be very slippery and dangerous while others are not. It is to be hoped some method will be devised whereby no more of the dangerous ones will be allowed to be laid.

## WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.

Today is the one hundred and sixtieth anniversary of the birth of George Washington and is a legal holiday in all the states of the Union excepting Arkansas, Delaware, Iowa, Mississippi and Vermont.

Why these states have not fallen into line and decreed that the natal day of the father of our country shall be observed is not apparent. Certainly it is fitting that the memory of the one man of all others who best contributed to the establishment of our government, should be kept green in the hearts of a people who point with pride to a structure reared upon a foundation so broad and so deep that it has stood not only the test of time, but withstood the batterings of a rebellion unparalleled in the annals of warfare.

## UNHAPPY MARRIAGE.

A marriage of the state and the church has in the history of nations led to an unhappy wedded life and ended in divorce. England, Spain, Germany and even Italy testify to the folly of such a union. Spiritual and temporal affairs cannot exist harmoniously together—the one or the other must dominate. Ghostly advisers, claiming to be called of God, assume to dictate in temporal affairs, and claim considerations it would be impolitic for the state to grant.

The recent ministerial crisis in France, which resulted in the resignation of Premier de Freycinet and his ministers, brought about by the defeat of the associations bill, which sought to restrict the property requirements of ecclesiastical bodies to their actual needs, emphasizes the folly of wedding the church to the state. It is not be-

cause they are opposed to each other, for the interests of the two are almost identical, but because of similarity of interests that they disagree.

The framers of our constitution recognized the danger of such an alliance, and wisely guarded against it. Probably England's experience was fresh in their minds. Germany has since deemed it expedient to divorce the church, and the French republic is now sharply warned of the danger of continuing an alliance which breeds only discord.

At least in Texas, Ark., the days of savagery are not past. A report to the fiery stake may have been proper in the sixteenth century, when religious intolerance drew men to the verge of madness; it may have been compatible with the brutal instincts of the half naked, savage tribes of America in the seventeenth century, and may be shudderingly countenanced when resorted to by the savage denizens of central Africa, but in a civilized community, surrounded and protected by laws amply sufficient to avenge crime, a return to so brutal and savage a method of punishing even the heinous offense committed by the negro Ed. Coy should receive the condemnation of the civilized world.

Today New York democracy will meet at Albany to choose delegates to the national democratic convention to be held in Chicago. Tammany is reported on the verge of a split, and the Cooper Union crowd will probably use every effort to widen the breach. David B. Hill may, before his inharmonious followers close their session, be rudely awakened to the fact that it is one thing to plan the capture of a state delegation and another thing to pocket it. Clever as Hill undoubtedly is as a politician, there is a growing conviction that he has put his foot in his midwinter convention trap, and will be checked by a force as surprising as it is painful.

Mrs. MONTAGU of Belfast, Ireland, the unnatural mother who stripped and tied her little three-year-old daughter in a dark room and left her to suffer excruciating pain and to die a torturing and lingering death so heartlessly cruel that even the cruelties of the inquisition were not more horrible, has been committed to jail without benefit of bail. Cruelty to children properly enough excites just indignation, but when a mother loses the maternal instinct and practices horrible, fatal cruelties on her own offspring, the deed becomes monstrous.

This wool, binding twine and bagging bills reported favorably upon by the ways and means committee, will be called up for consideration March 1. From that date the country may expect a dose of statistics, a plethora of buncombe, and an abundance of rant about the evil effects of the robber tariff on the horny-handed farmer. The fact that binding twine was never before sold so cheaply as now is not expected to cut any figure.

SIXTY THOUSAND lots have been put upon the market in Detroit in the last seven years, and yet there have been only 17,503 additions made to the number of those who hold property. This would seem to be a proof of the argument that if all the property of the world were divided equally among the inhabitants today, that two years from today it would be just as unequally divided as ever. Some will always be "hewers of wood and carriers of water."

What a commentary on sobriety in Canada that comparative cartoon in Nye's article affords. The figure representing the price of drinks for the Canadians towers loftily above the diminishing figures representing the sums spent for bread, milk, tea, coffee and cocoa and education, in their order. Unfortunately the cartoon is not an exaggerated burlesque of existing facts, but represents only too literally the truth.

THERE is an unauthenticated report that Canada's two great trunk lines, the Grand Trunk and the Canadian Pacific railways, have formed a combine. Those familiar with the bitter rivalry which has existed between these great corporations will doubt the truthfulness of the report. If it should be confirmed, however, Canada's traffic interests would be controlled by an octopus whose greed would be unappeasable.

DEMOCRATS from all quarters of the state will today flock to Ann Arbor to see and hear that greatest living exponent of "Jeffersonian simplicity," Grover Cleveland. If Mr. Cleveland forgets to expatiate upon free silver no one need be surprised, the tonic is one of those peculiar subjects which gathers force from silence, and becomes wisdom in the calm of democratic forgetfulness.

SOUTHERN war claimants seem to have cut out the work for the democratic congress. Over 2,000 bills, aggregating many hundred thousands of dollars, have been presented, and seventy have received favorable consideration at the hands of the committee. If the five-cent policy outlined is adhered to, these claimants will have to be satisfied with about a nickel apiece.

MONTANA ladies will furnish the last nail to be driven into the woman's building of the Columbian exposition. In shape it will resemble an ordinary twenty-penny nail, but will be made of Montana gold, silver and copper; that is, it will be tri-metallic, tri-colored, and Mrs. Potter Palmer will try to drive it.

Owing to a reduction of wages, the Union Pacific railway is threatened with a tie-up.

UTAH people want home rule, but they don't want it with a clause prohibiting polygamy. This makes all

the difference in the world, and will probably keep Utah people under federal jurisdiction yet a little longer.

An ugly rumor to the effect that it was Ex-Secretary Endicott who instigated the Alger calumny, is in circulation. Should the rumor be confirmed it will place Mr. Endicott in an unenviable position.

GROVER will dazzle the University sophomore today and make himself solid "wild cat gang" tomorrow. Grover is displaying a great deal of versatility on his Michigan tour.

PATH thinks a child can be taught to sing as soon as it can speak. But it can't be taught to sing for \$3000 a night.

EDITOR DANA is very much like a cockroach. He isn't especially dangerous, but he is an infernal nuisance.

## Announcements.

Tonight E. S. Willard will make his first appearance at Powers' Grand, supported by Marie Burroughs and A. W. Palmer's company. Mr. Willard's performance in "The Middleman" has been commended upon from one end of the country to the other. So striking is the genius of this player that the writers in the leading magazines have reviewed his talents and his playing. The play will be staged with all of the scenery and appointments used in the metropolitan productions. Grand Rapids theater-goers are to be congratulated on the opportunity of seeing so gifted an actor. The sale of seats is very large.

"Peter Peterson" opened at Redmond's last night to a very large house. Further comment is not necessary.

The sale of seats for the thrilling melodrama, "Paul Kaurav," which will be given at Powers' Grand and Saturday, will open their engagement at Smith's this afternoon at 2 o'clock.

The City Sport's Burlesque company, with pretty ladies, handsome costumes and a burlesque on Barnum's "Nero," will open their engagement at Smith's this afternoon at 2 o'clock.

## Dakota Gold Strips.

RAPID CITY, S. D., Feb. 20.—William Franklin, one of the owners of the Keystone gold mine in the Etta district, Pennington county, who is in this city, reports a rich strike in a tunnel now in 210 feet. He states that the face of the tunnel is in one which goes 571 feet, and that one streak three-quarters of an inch wide will pay over \$20,000 per ton.

## Another Rich Strike.

FREEMONT, Col., Feb. 20.—Great excitement has been caused by the discovery of a three-foot vein of telluride ore in the Dyer lode. Ore from this lode already assays \$109 per ton.

## Died On The Street.

BAY CITY, Mich., Feb. 20.—Albert Van Dusen, a laborer, dropped dead on Third street this afternoon while hauling wood. He leaves a widow and six children, two of the latter being with him when he fell and expired.

## HE MET THE EMERGENCY.

How Admiral Sommes Repaired His Cruiser Out of Dry Dock.

One of the most serious difficulties that our new steel cruisers have had to encounter is the rapidity with which the bottoms of the ships become foul when afloat in tropical waters, says the New York Times. This has been illustrated in the cases of vessels on the Pacific station, which have been compelled to steam to San Francisco at times when their services could not well be spared, for the sole purpose of having their bottoms cleaned. This necessity has made the absence of coaling and naval stations keenly felt, and if the present strained relations with Chili lead to a more serious complication there may be further reasons to deplore the failure of the government to secure foreign naval stations. If the crisis comes and the presence of an American fleet is required in Chilean waters the commanders of our war vessels will doubtless find some method to keep the bottoms of their vessels sufficiently clean for high speed without the aid of dry docks. An illustration of what can be done when necessity demands is afforded in the case of the famous confederate cruiser. In his "Memoirs of the Service Afloat" Admiral Sommes mentions an incident when an injury below the water line of his vessel made repairs to the damaged part essential to the efficiency of his vessel. There was no port into which the ship dared to venture and other means had to be thought of. The commander lit on a scheme that proved to be successful. He directed the carpenters and machinists to construct a caisson to fit over the injured space beneath the water line. The plans of the ship showed the curves of the hull, and from these drawings a caisson was built which fitted so nicely as to be almost water-tight, and was easily kept free of water by the pumps. The result was that the damage was repaired as effectively as it could have been done had the ship been placed in dry dock. If, with the rough material on board, the men of that ship could fit a caisson to their vessel, it seems reasonable to think that the task of keeping a warship's bottom clean when dry docks are not available can be accomplished by the same means. Material for sectional caissons to fit each part of the ship's bottom could be provided for each ship and put together on board.

## HOARDS OF RUPEES.

The Accumulated Wealth of Indian Rajahs Is Beginning to Circulate.

The ancient Oriental passion of hoarding appears from an article on the circulation of the rupee in the Economic Journal to be gradually disappearing, and is now believed to be mainly confined to the old wealthy families and princes. The original cause, fear of civil tumult, has passed away, and the presence of an increasing market for investment, the sweet simplicity of the four per cent, or family misfortune, or later have the effect of emptying the family vault. Notable instances of the dissipation of large hoards have occurred in recent years. The Maharaja of Gwalior, a Mahatma chief, lent the government upward of thirty million rupees, of which all but three million were in native coin. The Maharaja of Baroda's accumulation (originally of silver rupees) has

disappeared in litigation and investment, and recently large hoards of silver rupees from Madras, and Chikil rupees from Kashmir, have passed into English mints.

In Bengal several considerable hoards of silver rupees have been found to exist in the houses of wealthy landlords on the occasion of their property passing into the control of the court of wards. Mr. Harrison estimates the annual quasi-permanent disappearance of government rupees due to this cause as now less than five million, and would put it even lower if there were not reason to believe that in southern India the priestly trustees of temples still accumulate the offerings of pilgrims.

## Rummaging in a Queen's Wardrobe.

What a delightful day one could spend rummaging in the great cabinets at Windsor castle, where are stored away all the gowns that Queen Victoria ever wore. For the queen's robes are never sold or given away, despite the energetic attempts which have been made from time to time to induce the attendants to part with some of these thousands of gowns, which their wearers have probably forgotten that she ever possessed. The coronation robes, bridal gowns, resplendent garments of state and royal ceremonial, worn in the old days before the magnificence of queenliness was forgotten in the sorrow of widowhood, what will become of these relics when the long reign is ended and the enormous cabinets are made ready for the new queen's arrival?

## Good Looking Royalty.

The late Dowager Duchess Louise, of Bavaria, widow of Duke Maximilian, was renowned as the mother of five daughters, all famous for their beauty and accomplishments. The Cinderella of the family was Duchess Elizabeth, now empress of Austria. She was a madcap maiden, not to say a tomboy, and the emperor saw her for the first time when he came to betroth himself to an elder sister, the beautiful Duchess Helen, who at her death a few years ago was accounted the handsomest and most intellectual woman in Europe. But the emperor fell in love with Elizabeth at sight, and a few months later she entered Vienna in state as empress of Austria and queen of Hungary.

## Horses' Acute Hearing.

It is well known that horses can hear deep sounds which we cannot. For days previous to the earthquake in the Riviera the horses there showed every symptom of abject fear, which continued without any change of character till the fury of the convulsion broke forth. But not till a few seconds before the earth began to quake did human beings hear any sounds, while it is extremely probable that the horses heard the subterranean noises for two or three days previous.

## FAITHFUL DOGS.

The Story of One That Has Been Immortalized.

Poets have always loved dogs, says Harper's Young People. In this poets and boys resemble each other. Walter Savage Landor was devoted to his dog Giallo, and Byron's epitaph upon his dog Boatswain we all remember: "To mark a friend's remains, these stones arise: I never had but one, and there he lies." Cowper was very fond of his dog, and we know how Charles Lamb, who was a prose poet, loved his Dash, and how Mrs. Browning appreciated the little Flush to whom she dedicated a poem. The earl of Shaftesbury kept his noble collie in his library with him at all times, and Samuel Rogers always walked out with his dog. Scott declined an invitation to dinner when his dog died, saying that he could not accept on account of the "loss of an old friend."

Wordsworth and Scott both celebrated in their poems the famous old Gelert. This dog, a deerhound, was given by King John to his son-in-law Llewellyn, who kept him at his hunting lodge, in the neighborhood of the Welsh mountain Snowdon. Gelert was missed one morning from the hunt by his master. Llewellyn, upon his return to the lodge, saw the dog, and discovered that its mouth was besmeared with blood. Concluding that the dog had devoured his child, the infuriated master slew the poor animal. Upon investigation, he discovered a dead wolf by the child's cradle, while the child was safely and soundly sleeping. The brave dog had saved Llewellyn's heir from the wolf. A monument was erected to the faithful creature, which bears the name of Beth-Gelert.

## ORIGIN OF THE DIAMOND.

Geologists Cannot Read the History of the Gem.

This is still one of the mysteries of geology. When the South African fields were discovered there was much astonishment to find the gem in a series of minerals quite different from those in which it had been hitherto found in India and Brazil, says Good News. Instead of lying beside tourmaline, amethyst and brookite it was mingled with a breccia of magnesian rocks which had evidently been pushed up from below, and a great variety of minerals, such as diopside, mica, zircon, corundum, were embedded along with it. Some have supposed that the diamond was originally formed where it is now picked up, and the presence of carbonated gas and carboniferous rocks are in favor of the idea, but on the other hand the broken condition of some of the stones, and other facts, make it far more probable that the diamond has been ejected from a deeper source. According to M. Daubree, the well-known French mineralogist, the diamond issues from the infragranitic regions of the earth's crust, where peridot is prevalent; for it arrives at the surface along with that mineral and certain serpentine masses which result from the transformation of the latter. The imitation of this gem has reached great perfection. A material named Strass, after its German discoverer, which is made from rock crystal, brookite and caustic potash, purified by alcohol, is now used for the artificial gem. They are mostly made in Switzerland.

## SAVED BY LAUGHTER.

The Peace of a City Preserved by a Jolly Subject.

It was in 1666, after a battle, and the streets of Madrid were filled with angry crowds bent on destroying everything and everybody. Suddenly an unknown man, tall and dark and strong, appeared at the city hall. "Give me a band of musketeers," he said, "and before daylight I shall control all Madrid." He must have been a man of rare personality to have been able to persuade the authorities at all in that dark

hour to give him any thing at all, much less to do. Going out with the musketeers he wandered through the town. While they played he sang folk songs or some national air. When these bored the people he mounted old boxes and told funny stories, and by and by the people forgot to be angry, followed their new leader wherever he went, laughing over his stories and songs. By nightfall peace reigned in the city and the mob broke up and went home to bed. The man's name was Felipe Ducaud, and he was only twenty-two years old when he did this clever thing. We hear a great deal about heroic things in saving countries by long and terrible rides at night, or by the sacrifice of one's self by dying in somebody's stead, but few of us remember before of anyone who saved a town by laughter.

## GREAT AT A FIRE.

The Way One Man Made His Services Invaluable.

In Lisbon, Falls lives a most estimable and level-headed business man of wide experience and sagacity, says the Lewiston Journal. He has one failing and that is a lively one—he gets "rattled" whenever there is a fire. This has so often been proven by experience that some mistaken folks have hitherto wished that he wouldn't turn out when the fire bell rings, but they don't do so any more.

Some time ago they had a fire, and this business man was there. He hustled into his clothes, prepared to rush forth and save things, when he found that some one had looked him in. He made a grand rally for outdoors, and he got there, whether by stratagem or force, we don't know. And now comes the yarn the boys tell about him. We don't vouch for it. They say that as soon as he appeared on the scene of the fire he began to beg, and the way he made things hum was lively. It was "do this" and "do that." "Here you, give us some water here." "Here you, what you wasting water for? Limber up, Hooley, Tiger!"

Water was scarce, the boys say, and about all they had come from a well by a pump. The Lisbon Falls man got an ax and became so excited, with the fire and the crowd, and particularly at the possession of the ax, that he cut the pump down and kept the crowd at bay while he did it. The boys have had a good laugh about it ever since, and nobody was hurt. They had such a lively time at this fire that they can't get along without him after this, and they will feel it a personal loss if he doesn't turn out at every alarm.

## FUNNY GROCERY ORDER.

People Who Send for "Desecrated" Soap and "Domesticated" Sugar.

I have a friend in the civil service stores who has a sad for collecting the odd orders sent in by customers, some of which are quite amusing, says a writer in Frank Leslie's, and some of them, too, sent in by matrons who ought to know better.

A St. Charles street lodging-house keeper sends for "desecrated" soap for "desecrated" soap, "Mickey Rooney" for macaroni and "distracted" beef for extract of beef. Others on his list are "domesticated" sugar for Demerara sugar, "Margary Ann" for margarine; desecrated soups are ordered as "domesticated," "unasticated" and "desecrated." In ordering marrowfat peas my friend has to smile over "Hallifax, mild fat" and "matter-o'-fact" peas. "Gordon's holler" cheese was O K when he sent Gorgonzola. "Mortal soap" becomes mottled soap. Worcester sauce is twisted into "worsted" sauce. It was rather hard to interpret half a pound of "laffy walker," but tapioca filled the bill, as it was not sent back.

My friend told me of a mistake he once made in sending an old maid a nursing bottle instead of a bottle of "kid reviver," as she designated boot polish. He was young then. The following is an order received from Gladstone, which my friend obligingly allowed me to copy:

Please send two large jars of orange marmalade—the best two large screw-top jars, two of butter-olive twist—black, one-half a cheese—Cheshire. Be careful with the last item, as I am very sensitive about the cheese I eat. I want it fresh and firm. The last you sent was capable of exciting a riot.

## THE ROOFED LIZARD.

One of the Fiercest Monsters of the Reptilian Age.

The names that have been invented for some of the animals that inhabited the earth in long past ages are almost as extraordinary as the extinct creatures that they designate, says the Youth's Companion. Yet these names cannot be said to lack fitness. Take, for instance, the "stegosaurus," an animal of the Jurassic age which has been described by Prof. O. C. Marsh, and of one species of which he has just completed an ideal restoration; the name exactly fits the extraordinary beast that bears it.

Stegosaurus is formed from two Greek words, stego, roof, and saurus, lizard—and means a roofed lizard. These, however, did not resemble the little lizards familiar to us in our day, but were huge creatures eighteen or twenty feet in length and a dozen feet tall at the center of their sloping backs.

They were covered with a dermal or skinlike armor of a tough, bony character, very strongly backed with massive bony plates and spines. Upon the tail were four double-pointed projecting spines of great strength, which Prof. Marsh thinks were used for defensive purposes.

Similar indications of the powerful weapons and effective means of self-protection which nature furnished to the enormous beasts of the reptilian age are found in the remains of other extinct animals of that time. They were clearly cut out for fighters.

## CAPTURED WITH A WHIP.

How an Adirondack Farmer Took a Bear.

An Adirondack farmer discovered that a bear was prowling around his pig pen, and from the tracks he judged it to be a small bear, perhaps a yearling. One evening, on returning from the neighboring village, he saw the marauder plainly outlined in the moonlight. Stepping back in the shadow, he cut a blue beech "fox gad" the length of an ordinary fish pole, and with this weapon he started for the bear. The bear turned at the sight of the man, and received a cut on the nose that brought tears to its eyes. Another clip brought its nose down between its forelegs, and every time it raised its head down came the gad on the same spot. In vain poor beast tried to run away; the man was active as a cat, and handled the whip like a ring master. At last the bear

glad to give up any thing at all, much less to do. Going out with the musketeers he wandered through the town. While they played he sang folk songs or some national air. When these bored the people he mounted old boxes and told funny stories, and by and by the people forgot to be angry, followed their new leader wherever he went, laughing over his stories and songs. By nightfall peace reigned in the city and the mob broke up and went home to bed. The man's name was Felipe Ducaud, and he was only twenty-two years old when he did this clever thing. We hear a great deal about heroic things in saving countries by long and terrible rides at night, or by the sacrifice of one's self by dying in somebody's stead, but few of us remember before of anyone who saved a town by laughter.

## LITTLE CURIOUS THINGS.

Some Interesting Facts Not Universally Known.

Rattlesnakes are said to have a natural antipathy to white ash leaves. Some naturalists assert that a rattlesnake placed in a circle of half ash leaves and half hot coals will cross the coals rather than encounter the leaves says the St. Louis Republic.

Astronomers say that a shot fired at the equator of Jupiter would travel with a rotary motion at a speed forty six times greater than that of a cannon ball fired at the earth's equator.

Waves exert a force of one ton per square inch when they are only twenty feet high. At Cassis, France, granite blocks of fifteen cubic meters have been moved by wave force.

A cubic foot of newly fallen snow weighs five and a half pounds, and has twelve times the bulk of an equal weight of water.

A temperature of two hundred and twenty degrees below zero has been produced by a bath of carbon bisulphide and liquid nitrous acid.

Darwin has said that a large percent of all sweet-scented flowers are white; now Michelet has proved that there are no poisonous sea plants.

A wild goose killed in California had a grain of wheat in its crop which, when planted, produced a variety hitherto unknown.

Mitchell has calculated the velocity of light to be 186,000 miles per second.

Clear summer sunlight is said to penetrate the Mediterranean sea to a depth of twelve hundred feet; winter sunlight to only six hundred feet.

In the year 1835 a tulip bulb was sold in Holland for twenty-two hundred dollars; it weighed but two hundred grains.

## A NEW ILLUMINANT.

Platinum Suggested as a Rival of Electricity.

A new lamp whose projectors are enthusiastic enough to hint rather broadly that it is to be the rival of the electric light is described in the French papers, says Electricity. "A small ribbon of platinum foil, rolled upon itself in the form of a cylinder and enclosed in a receptacle of the same material, is provided. A gaseous mixture consisting of air and vapors of certain hydrocarbons is slowly urged through the apparatus and ignited, with the result that the platinum ribbon becomes incandescent." This incandescence is maintained by continuing the current of mixed gases, and, as the story goes, it "rivals in brilliancy that of the electric glow lamp."

We do not know how seriously this plan is proposed, but lest some one of our readers might be misled by such claims it may be well to call attention to a few facts. In the first place, early experiments with incandescent electric lamps proved that platinum, to give the same brilliancy as the carbon now used, must be heated to a degree so near its melting point as to cause a rapid change in its molecular structure, which soon causes it to break down. In the second place, this phenomenon of maintenance of an incandescent state by an atmosphere containing hydrogen or hydrocarbon gases has long been well known and was employed by Sir Humphrey Davy to maintain light in his safety lamp after the flame had been extinguished. It is equally well known that a brilliant incandescence cannot be obtained in this way, and, lastly, were there no other difficulties in the way, where is all the platinum to come from?

## WOMEN OF NERVE.

Two of Them Chase a Pickpocket and Recover a Pocketbook.

It is not one time in a hundred that a woman has the forethought and presence of mind to chase a pickpocket and recover her property instead of screaming for the police, asserts the Boston Journal.

There were two such plucky women on Washington street the other afternoon, however. They were near a crowded corner, when one of them felt a hand in her pocket. She made a grab for the hand, but it and her pocketbook were missing. With a rush she was after the thief, whom she grabbed right in the midst of team traffic on Washington street, which was for the time delayed. The horses of one car thrust their heads against the woman and her captive. Her friend was an able second, and laid a hand on the other shoulder of the pickpocket, a young man some twenty-five years of age. "You fend!" cried the other, "give up that pocketbook!" This was too much for the fellow's nerves, and he quickly pulled it out and handed it over. The women "let go," and the man disappeared up the street on a dead run, while the teams once more moved on in unbroken procession.

At Mevler, Col., preparations are being made by H. S. Altix, a taxidermist there, for a display of the game resources of that section at the world's fair. A large collection of bear, elk, lions, etc., will be mounted, as well as an interesting collection of fish and birds.

## Be Sure

If you have made up your mind to buy Hood's Sarsaparilla do not be induced to take any other. A Boston lady, whose example is worthy imitation, tells her experience below: "In one store where I went to buy Hood's Sarsaparilla the clerk tried to induce me to buy their own instead of Hood's; he told me they would last longer; that I might take it on ten

## To Get

days' trial; that if I did not like it I need not pay anything, etc. But he could not prevail on me to change. I told him I had taken Hood's Sarsaparilla, knew what it was, was satisfied with it, and did not want any other. When I began taking Hood's Sarsaparilla I was feeling real miserable with dyspepsia, so weak that at times I could hardly

## Hood's

stand. I looked like a person in consumption. Hood's Sarsaparilla did me so much good that I wonder at myself sometimes, and my friends frequently speak of it." Mrs. ELIZA A. GORR, 21 Terrace Street, Boston.

## Sarsaparilla

Sold by all druggists. Beware of cheap imitations. Prepared only by C. I. HOOD & CO., Apolthecaries, Lowell, Mass. 100 Doses One Dollar